### **Participating Banks**

American West Bank Key Bank

Bank Northwest Northwest International Bank
Bank of America Pacific Northwest Bank

Bank of Whitman People's Bank
Banner Bank Skagit State Bank
Cascade Bank South Sound Bank
Coastal Community Bank
Commerce Bank of WA Sterling Savings Bank

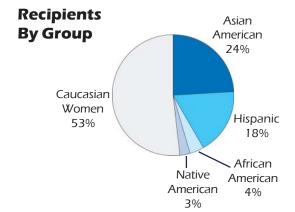
Evertrust Bank Timberland Bank

First Heritage Bank U.S. Bank

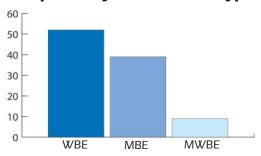
First Mutual Bank Washington Trust Bank

Frontier Bank Wells Fargo
Harbor Bank Wheatland Bank
Islander Bank Whidbey Island Bank

### **Program Statistics**



#### **Recipients by Certification Type**



#### State Resources

For general information and certification application, contact:



Office of Minority and Women's Business

Enterprises

406 South Water Street Olympia, WA 98504

360-753-9693

Toll Free: 866-208-1064

Banks interested in participating in the Linked Deposit Program should contact:



Office of the State Treasurer Legislative Building Olympia, WA 98504-0200 360-902-9011

# For information on program performance:



Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development Minority & Women's Business Development 2001 Sixth Avenue, Suite 2600 Seattle, WA 98121 206-256-6116



Financing for Certified Minority and Women's Business Enterprises



#### **Program Description**

The Washington State Linked Deposit Program ("LDP") was created by the 1993 Minority and Women Owned Business Assistance Act. The Washington State Legislature found that minority and women owned businesses had been historically denied access to capital and that lack of capital is a key barrier to the development of minority and women owned businesses.

The State Treasurer is authorized to use up to \$50 million of the State's short-term surplus funds to purchase certificates of deposit in an amount equivalent to the amount financial institutions loan to certified minority and women's business enterprises.

The Linked Deposit Program "links" the State's surplus fund deposits to the commercial loans that financial institutions make to certified minority and women business enterprises. Two percent of the interest that is earned on the State's certificates of deposit is used to reduce the interest rate that would otherwise be charged to a certified business for its loan or other financing.

#### **Program Scope**

- Firms must be certified as an MBE, WBE, MWBE, or CBE by the State Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises
- Firms must satisfy the bank's financing/loan criteria
- Types of qualifying loans:
   Any commerical financing made to the certified firm, e.g., lines of credit, financing of accounts receivable, working capital, equipment purchases, real property acquisition
- ♦ No minimum or maximum dollar limit, or limit on the number of loans a firm may have
- Interest Rate: Two percentage points below the market rate for a similar loan
- Loan Term: Up to five years; may be renewed

#### **OMWBE Certification Criteria**

- Eligible owner must be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident
- Eligible owner must be a minority (African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, Native American), or a woman
- Eligible owner must own at least 51% and maintain managerial and operational control
- Firm must be independently owned and operated
- ♦ Firm must be a small business
- Firm must perform a "commercially useful function"

#### **Questions & Answers**

#### O - Who administers the Program?

A - The State Treasurer's Office, Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises, and the Office of Community, Trade, and Economic Development each have distinct duties in the administration of the Program.

## O - Who is eligible to participate in the Program?

- A The Program is available to any minority or woman owned business enterprise currently certified by OMWBE.
- Q Does the state loan the funds used in the Program?
- A No. The state is not lending money. The loans are made directly by the bank. The state purchases the certificate of deposit that makes the interest rate reduction in the Program possible.

### O - How can I obtain a Linked Deposit loan?

A - Contact your bank to discuss its lending requirements. You will need to meet the bank's lending criteria.

### O - Is the loan affected if my business is decertified before the loan is retired?

A - Yes. If the firm is decertified prior to paying off the loan, the interest rate reverts to the market rate. The loan no longer qualifies for the reduced interest rate.

## O - Does the State guarantee repayment of Linked Deposit loans?

A - No. The State does not guarantee the loans will be repaid if the borrower defaults. The Program only provides a two percent interest rate reduction. The bank determines what collateral, if any, is required to secure repayment.